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Canterbury Nurseries, Easton, Md.

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HANDBOOK *on* BOXWOOD



Canterbury Maryland Boxwood • Easton, Md.



On hundreds of America's Colonial estates, hardy Old English Boxwood, planted before the Revolutionary War, has grown into huge, dense masses of billowing foliage.

THEY miss a great deal in life who do not know the magic and witchery of Old English Boxwood—who have not strolled into a box-planted garden in early Spring and experienced the exhilaration of returning life whispered as a promise by the ever-green, ever-living foliage of this glorious shrub. Who have not on a warm, moon-lit evening, tilted back contentedly in a deep porch chair to muse in its delicate, distinctive aroma that comes and goes like a will-o'-the-wisp and to dream of the countless romantic secrets hidden in the inky-black pools of shadow cast by every boxwood plant. Ancient as the ages—new as tomorrow's dewdrops that sparkle on each tiny leaf—boxwood has a place in every garden planting—creates an indefinable character and atmosphere for every setting.

Canterbury Maryland Boxwood

Easton, Maryland

Romantic and Historic
background of . . .

OLD ENGLISH BOXWOOD

NO plant grown has a greater wealth of history and tradition than Old English Boxwood. It has been used for countless generations to ornament the most beautiful gardens of Europe and America. It was known and used along the Mediterranean Sea before the Christian Era; the Bible makes specific reference to boxwood; the poetry and legends of many countries are punctuated with descriptions of its heavy foliage or delicately distinctive odor. Down through the years, this magnificent plant has been used in the unbelievably beautiful gardens of the past to add an indescribable dignity and charm that no other ornamental shrub could give.

A planting of Canterbury Maryland Boxwood will be an unlimited source of enjoyable speculation about the romantic past from which these plants are directly descended. Who can tell but that the great-great-grandfather of those densely foliaged, perfectly formed little plants you've selected for the corner of your garden wall, was one of the glorious specimens that grew in Pliny's terraced gardens bordered with boxwood carved into living statues overlooking the azure blue Tuscan Sea. Perhaps they trace their lineage to the legend of Saint Phocas, the patron saint of all gardeners, who dug his own grave in the center of his peaceful boxwood garden and then calmly offered himself to the Roman soldiers sent by the Emperor to kill him.

Queen Isabella of Spain received Columbus upon his return from his voyage of discovery in the New World in one of the elaborate, box-bordered gardens of the castle. And it was in this same boxwood garden that Philip the Second, after having failed to conquer England, cunningly planned the Inquisition.

Canterbury Maryland Boxwood will reconstruct for you, mind pictures of Italy during the Renaissance, when magnificent gardens were planned and planted with infinite care and the greatest sculptors of the day, Benvenuto Cellini and Michael Angelo, carved living boxwood into statues of nymphs, dolphins, dragons and hundreds of other intricate figures.

Possibly your plants are descended from some which grew



Notice how the low boxwood edging in the foreground makes a perfect setting for the flowers and the brick wall beyond it.



Dark green foliage acts as a frame for the gorgeous garden picture it encloses.

in the wonderful boxwood gardens of Versailles during the French Revolution and were saved from destruction by the crazed Revolutionists when Citizen Antoine Richard, previously the Queen's chief gardener, suggested that this marvelous garden be kept to grow vegetables for the patriots.

Your plants may have come from those first specimens which are supposed to have been brought back to Western Europe and England by the Crusaders returning from the Holy Lands. It was the cuttings from these original plants which have supplied most of the gardens since the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Its popularity in England has gradually given this glorious shrub the name—"Old English Boxwood."

Of this much you may be quite certain—your Canterbury

Maryland Boxwood was propagated from cuttings taken directly from one of the oldest and most beautiful Colonial Boxwood plantings in America. The original plants were brought over from England before the Revolutionary War. Since Old English Boxwood does not re-seed itself; since it can be grown only from cuttings, it is quite possible that those little plants in the corner of your garden wall may trace their origin through history as far back as the Crusades—even to the Hanging Gardens of Babylon.

This is the wealth of background that you get when you plant Canterbury Maryland Boxwood—a romantic tradition transplanted into any garden or added to any home, large or small.



Romantic, historic boxwood is used around America's most artistic memorials and public buildings.


How and when to plant OLD ENGLISH BOXWOOD

OLD English Boxwood, contrary to general opinion, is a very adaptable and a very hardy plant. As a general rule, it will do well in any soil that will support ordinary garden crops. Some of the majestic old specimens that were planted by America's early settlers have lived and thrived in very poor soil and have successfully withstood Summer drought and Winter cold without any care whatever from the present owners of the property upon which they were originally planted generations ago. Many of these rare, rugged, ancient pieces have been rescued from chicken runs, pastures, barnyards or dense underbrush grown up around some dilapidated ruin. But the ideal conditions for boxwood are a moderate loam, partial shade, constant moisture but not wetness, and some shelter from the full driving force of Winter winds.

Although boxwood may be successfully planted along the Atlantic coast line as far north as Boston, it does best from New York City and its suburbs southward to the northern boundary of Florida—from the Ohio River southward throughout the Mississippi Valley. If it is given shelter from heavy snows and high winds, it will grow almost anywhere; successful plantings have been made in such exposed places as Cleveland and Detroit. Boxwood is not a tropical plant; it prefers the rigors of the temperate zone. For this reason, it does not do well in the tropic heat of Southern Florida.

North of Philadelphia, Old English Boxwood should be planted at any time in the Spring after the ground is thawed out and before the new growth has started—between March 15th and May 10th. Later in the year, it may be planted from August 15th to October 15th. South of Philadelphia and St. Louis, it may be planted at any time between October and May when the ground is not frozen.

Plan your planting of beautiful Canterbury Maryland Boxwood carefully before your plants arrive; don't wait until the last minute to decide where you are going to put them. Boxwood will repay you a thousand-fold for the care you take in planting, by developing magnificent puffs and billows of dense, rich green foliage.



Notice the dense foliage mass and the healthy, fibrous root system of Canterbury Maryland Boxwood.

Ordinary care to be given *boxwood*

OLD English Boxwood is shallow rooted in almost every case except where the soil is extremely dry and sandy and its roots have to reach much farther to find water. This shallow system of small, fibrous roots enables the plant to flourish even under the most adverse conditions—and permits easy transplanting even with large, fully developed plants.

If possible, give your boxwood plants shallow cultivation during the Summer months, so that the loose dirt mulch prevents rapid evaporation of ground moisture. While the plants are young, mulch with straw or leaves during the Winter and brush heavy falls of snow off your plants, so that the weight on the dense foliage will not force your bushes out of shape or split their branches.

In cold, Northern climates, it is best to erect a simple shelter of burlap over your boxwood during the Winter months to keep snows from damaging it and to give it partial shade from the cruel Winter sun. If it is exposed to clear sweeps of wind, cover it with a network of twine or erect some form of wind-break in front of it.

Fertilize your boxwood once a year with ground bone, dried blood or sheep manure. Old English Boxwood needs very little pruning. If some of your plants are scraggly or put out very uneven growth, trim these ragged edges in the very early Spring

before the new growth starts. Your plants will not need pruning to grow into beautifully symmetrical shapes of heavy bushiness.

Old English Boxwood requires no more care than any other plant or bush in your garden, but it will respond gorgeously to the little attentions that you give it—and wherever it is planted, your Canterbury Maryland Boxwood shows its gratitude by creating around itself an atmosphere of regal splendor, stateliness and charm such as no other plant but boxwood can build.

There is no foliage scene which you might create about your home or garden that can compare with the matchless beauty of a rich green boxwood planting immediately after a light fall of snow. It is impossible to describe the subtle, distinctive boxwood fragrance that lingers in the atmosphere after a warm Summer rain. It is these qualities, impossible to define, but never forgotten, which have made genuine Old English Boxwood for generations, the most highly prized of all ornamental shrubs.



Old English Boxwood turns small gardens into spots of exquisite, permanent beauty and charm.

Ways to use **OLD ENGLISH BOXWOOD** *for beautiful landscaping effects*

NO OTHER plant can be used to give such beautiful effect when planted as a pathway border or to act as a frame to accentuate the glorious colors of the flower picture it encloses. Plant boxwood on either side of a garden gate or a doorway; its characteristic air of hospitality and grace will be a constant beckoning invitation to enter. Use boxwood to accentuate a garden fountain or some graceful piece of garden furniture; its deep, dark green foliage provides a perfect background for the article behind which it is planted. Old English Boxwood can be most attractively used as an edging for a foundation planting or to fill with its magnificent, rich color, the corners of a garden wall.

For those who prefer extreme formality in their lawns or gardens, boxwood may be planted as a *parterre* or as a boxwood maze. This is one of the oldest uses of this historic evergreen shrub; it was in this intricate, formal manner that the ancient Romans used boxwood and later it was characteristic of Moorish, French and English landscaping. Probably the finest living example of this use of Old English Boxwood is the maze at Tuckahoe, birthplace of Thomas Jefferson.



A cozy outdoor living-room delicately scented with the age-old, romantic perfume of box.

Because of its shallow, fibrous root system, boxwood is admirably suited for potting work. Boxwood will flourish in window-boxes, porch-boxes, tubs and jardinières much longer than any other evergreen and in such plantings, it reflects cheerful, old-fashioned, friendly welcome and comfort.

Nothing is more fitting as a cemetery planting than genuine Old English Boxwood. Its impressive, rich foliage, gorgeously green the year around, stands as a perpetual symbol of everlasting comfort and peace.



★ Box-bordered flower beds and box-bordered walks magnify the glorious flower colors in Summer and keep the garden a freshly green, attractive spot throughout the Winter. ★



With a little clever planning and some imagination, Canterbury Maryland
Boxwood can be used to change an unused, unattractive
piece of ground into a beautiful enclosed garden.



The largest
OLD ENGLISH BOXWOOD
plantation in the country

HERE at Easton, Maryland, soil and climate combine to provide ideal conditions for large scale propagation and growth of Old English Boxwood. Moisture-laden breezes from the Atlantic Ocean or the Chesapeake Bay provide the plants with the necessary water and moderate temperatures in Summer and Winter. The light clay soil is admirably suited to the shallow, fibrous root growth because it holds the moisture near the surface. Plants quickly develop heavy, bushy, dark green foliage—solid to the center of the plant. Under such growing conditions, it was quite natural for Canterbury Maryland Boxwood to become the largest boxwood plantation in the United States.

We are specialists in boxwood. For almost twenty years the one objective of our organization has been to produce and maintain an exceptionally fine quality of stock. Our workmen have been especially trained in the propagation, growth and care of boxwood. Right now, we have more than one million wonderfully healthy plants of various sizes growing on this plantation—all ready to dig and ship to beautify American homes and gardens.

For years before the extensive, scientific propagation of Old English Boxwood on this plantation, this magnificent shrub was used almost exclusively in plantings about public buildings and

memorials or on immense estates. Now we are able to furnish beautiful, heavy-foliaged, health-certified plants of romantic, historic, genuine Old English Boxwood to home owners and garden lovers of America at prices which are well within their easy reach. No other plant can bring to your garden such an heritage of romantic color—nor such a wealth of grace and charm of generations past.

*All plants grown from cuttings taken
from boxwood planted before
the Revolutionary War*

EACH one of our Canterbury Maryland Boxwood plants has been grown from a cutting taken from one of the oldest and most beautiful boxwood plantings in America. Before the Revolutionary War, while original settlers of Maryland were trading with friendly, native Indian tribes, these boxwood plants were brought over from England and planted with tender care and hope for the future right where they stand today. Think of the story these glorious old patriarchs could tell of the history of our own nation—and what tales they could tell of vows made, tears shed, flirtations, embraces, broken hearts and high hopes—all within the dark shadows cast by their dense, delicately scented foliage. Each Canterbury Maryland Boxwood plant that you receive was originally a twig on one of these splendid old specimens. In Canterbury Maryland Boxwood, you get romance, history and tradition—a living link with Colonial America and a cultural touch with the development of the civilized world.



★ Your Canterbury Maryland Boxwood plants are carefully selected from
the million of various sizes growing in the sun-drenched
fields of this immense plantation. ★



This is the largest Old English Boxwood plantation in the country. Each plant on our broad acres has been grown from a cutting taken from a famous boxwood planting made before the Revolutionary War. What an historic background for the plants you set out in your own garden.

*Your order filled from selected,
health-certified stock of beautiful
full-foliaged plants*

NO Canterbury Maryland Boxwood is ever dug, crated and stored awaiting orders. Each order that we receive is filled with plants that are taken from our fields and shipped the same day. Because of the tremendous number of plants of various sizes we have growing on our plantation, we are able to hold very closely to uniform sizes and foliage formations for each order. No plant of inferior quality is ever permitted to leave our property and it has always been our policy to deliver a little more than we promise in the way of size and foliage mass.

Canterbury Maryland Boxwood is health-certified—each plant a beautiful mass of heavy foliage clear to the center, and provided with a large, healthy root system that insures sturdy growth after transplanting.

Don't put off until another season your making a planting of glorious Old English Boxwood. Select the place where you'd like most to see the peaceful, homey, reassuring, ever cheerful, green lustre of its little leaves—walk border, edging for your favorite flower garden, gateway or window-box planting—then plan to set out your magnificent little plants now. Don't postpone it until the time when you can make an extensive planting—make your start with boxwood now and add to your plantings from season to season. You'll be most agreeably surprised at the beauty a few plants can add—and you won't be satisfied until the inimitable charm that boxwood alone can give is apparent throughout your garden.

Your Canterbury Maryland Boxwood reaches you freshly dug, healthy—all ready to set in the ground.



HOW TO ORDER CANTERBURY BOXWOOD

MAKE your start this season. Estimate the number of plants you'll need and we'll dig them and send them to you immediately—fresh, densely foliated, health-certified and all ready to grow where you've decided to plant them.

If you prefer, send us a rough sketch of the planting you want to make; note the approximate dimensions and the size of the plants you intend to use. We'll select and send you the number of plants required.

Consult the Canterbury Maryland Boxwood Schedule of plant sizes and prices. Notice the minimum order requirement of one dozen on all plants under 10 inches in height. Send us your check, money order or C. O. D. instructions and your order will be shipped immediately.

On the price schedule which accompanies this booklet, you will see that we have listed the sizes available in several species and varieties of boxwood. If you are interested in some species or variety or plant size which does not appear on this schedule, send us details. The stock of boxwood which we maintain on this plantation is the largest in the country and we are confident that we will have the plants which you want even though they do not appear on this price list.

How Canterbury Maryland Boxwood is packed and shipped

AS soon as your order for Canterbury Maryland Boxwood is received, your plants are carefully selected and dug. Their large, fibrous root systems are wadded with moistened moss and wrapped in waterproof paper. Your plants are crated, labelled and shipped the same day your order arrives—growing plants, taken right out of the ground. They reach you in perfect condition, all ready to set right out where you've planned to put them—ready to live and thrive and grow more beautiful and more valuable every year with a minimum of care and attention.



OUR WARRANTY OF QUALITY TO EVERY PURCHASER

YOU may be absolutely sure of receiving genuine Old English Boxwood of highest quality, full foliage and healthy root growth.

As soon as you receive your shipment of Canterbury Maryland Boxwood, look each plant over carefully. Notice the heavy bushiness of the foliage and the healthy root systems. If your shipment is not exactly in accordance with our representations of these beautiful plants, return the shipment immediately and your money will be refunded.

Canterbury Maryland Boxwood
Easton, Maryland



NOW at last, it is possible for every home owner or garden lover to possess some of the most highly prized, most romantic plants in America—plants which are as closely identified with American history as the Indian Wars, the Thirteen Colonies and the Declaration of Independence—plants which trace their ancestry to the Roman Empire, the Crusades and the Holy Land—genuine Old English Boxwood. Plant boxwood this year for immediate beauty of your own planning, to increase the value of your home and garden and to pass on to your children, living evidence of your love for home and family.

CANTERBURY MARYLAND BOXWOOD
EASTON, MARYLAND